

City Manager's Office Communications Division PO Box 1810 Wilmington, NC 28402-1810

910 342-2736 910 341-5839 fax wilmingtonnc.gov Dial 711 TTY/Voice



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 27, 2006

Leak near Warlick Drive sewage spill being repaired

Permanent repairs to fix the leak in the force main sewage line near the end of Warlick Drive began Sunday. The hole causing the leak has been temporarily plugged until a repair sleeve can be put on as a permanent repair. The hole had been previously repaired 10-14 years ago.

City crews stopped the leak on Saturday afternoon by diverting the spill back into the system via a manhole. To make the repair, the city stopped the waste water flowing into the pipe for 1.5 hours Sunday afternoon and then again Monday morning from 1:30-5 a.m., but did not have enough time to make the repair before they had to resume waste water flowing through the pipe. The permanent repair will be completed in the next few days.

Although the hole in the pipe has been plugged, city officials advise that some waste water has spilled out during the repair process. Results of water samples in the creek taken mid-day Sunday show little effect from the leak in the pipe. However, officials expect results to change as they continue testing because of the spillage that has occurred in the immediate area of the spill as the repairs are being made.

As a precaution, the city recommends that citizens not come into contact with the water.

###

For more information, contact Public Information Officer Malissa Talbert at 470-8720.